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heard Mr. Ladd give in the Old South Church, Boston, and but for this "apostle of peace" the great oration on "The True Grandeur of Nations" would never have been delivered. He had great versatility of mind, great readiness in argument, a temper which could not be disturbed, charming oratorical powers, and above all the most unwavering faith that the cause which he had in hand was God's cause and therefore worthy of his very best service. His plan for a Congress and Court of Nations was the ripe fruit of his life-thought and left little to be said afterwards on the subject. Our country has produced many noble and fruitful lives, but none more noble and fruitful, in its way, than his. The cause which he espoused is, without question, the greatest of all reforms, going deeper down into human nature and extending out more widely over all the interests of humanity than any other, and the honor of its final triumph, at no matter what point in the coming centuries, will be in no small measure his.

He came home from a lecturing tour of six months, during which he spoke nearly every night and often three times on the Sabbath, to die from sheer exhaustion. Many of his last discourses were delivered on his knees because of inability to stand. He died on the 9th of April, 1841, in the sixty-third year of his age.

GREAT BRITAIN AND VENEZUELA.

The following resolution touching the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela was unanimously reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs and unanimously adopted by the House of Representatives on the 6th of February :

"Whereas in the present enlightened age of the world, when international disputes in general, and more particularly those pertaining to boundary, are in constant process of adjustment by joint commission or by outside arbitration; and

"Whereas since the existing boundary dispute in Guiana, between Great Britain and Venezuela, ought not to constitute an exception to the general rule, but should more naturally come within the scope and range of modern international precedent and practice, in that it turns exclusively upon simple and readily ascertainable historical facts; and

"Whereas since it would be extremely gratifying to all peace-loving peoples, and particularly to the impartial friends of both parties, to see this long-standing and disquieting boundary dispute in Guiana adjusted in a manner just and honorable alike to both, to the end that possible international complications be avoided, and American public law and traditions maintained; therefore,

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, etc., that the President's suggestion, made in his last annual message to this body, namely, that Great Britain and Venezuela refer their dispute as to boundary limits in Guiana to friendly arbitration, be most earnestly recommended to the favorable consideration of both the parties in interest."

This resolution, which has since met with President Cleveland's approval, grew out of the suggestion contained in the President's last annual message, and was intended, as Mr. Hitt said in the short discussion preceding its passage, simply to voice the judgment of Congress as to the desirability and rightness of arbitration in this special case "in view of the discussion going on in this and other nations touching the general doctrine of arbitration as a method for the settlement of international disputes." Mr. Dingley made the point during the discussion that Congress ought not to pass such a resolution, as it would be a bad precedent in the way of interference with the affairs of other nations. This view did not prevail, however, and the resolution certainly contains nothing on the face of it which is in the least dictatorial or discourteous.

There is not much doubt, however, that the immediate occasion of the resolution was Mr. Cremer's visit to Washington with the memorial signed by 354 members of the House of Commons. We have learned from several reliable sources that the chief obstacle which he found in the way of the proposed Anglo-United States Arbitration treaty is the feeling entertained to a considerable extent at Washington that England wishes arbitration only with her equals and refuses it with her inferiors. On this point we need not repeat what was said in our last issue.

If this is a wrong interpretation of the attitude of England, as we sincerely hope, the friends of arbitration in the British parliament, who are now strong enough to make their voice heard, may do much to remove the feeling by promptly urging the British Government to submit the Anglo-Venezuelan dispute to arbitration. It is a dispute of 70 years standing. For more than a half century Venezuela has been asking Great Britain to submit her claim to arbitration. Our Government has more than once tendered its good offices as the impartial friend of both parties. As many as ten of the South American States have addressed the British Government in the same sense.

If Great Britain really favors the principle of arbitration, it is difficult to explain her course in reference to this long-standing dispute. In the course of his speech in presenting the above resolution Mr. Livingston, its author, said :

"Even at this moment there is understood to be a special envoy in this Capitol, bearing a petition signed by a majority of the British House of Commons, praying the President of the United States to agree to submit all differences between that country and this to friendly arbitration. This is praiseworthy and commendable. But why not begin the good work by petitioning their own Government at St. James to accede to Venezuela's standing offer to refer the Guiana boundary dispute to the decision of arbitration, as recommended by the President in his last annual message? Then the Parlia-

ment of Great Britain might, with entire consistency, and with a conscious rectitude of purpose, ask this Government to refer all its differences with England to arbitration."

It is possible that Mr. Livingston, in presenting this resolution immediately on the heels of Mr. Cremer's visit, may not have been animated by the best possible motives. Of his motives we know nothing directly, but the point which he makes is certainly rightly taken. Our country could not be expected to enter into an arbitration treaty with Great Britain, unless it were clear that the latter country were acting from genuine attachment to the principle of arbitration as such. We are sorry that there should be anything in the way of an immediate response being given by our Government to the noble and courteous memorial of the 354 members of the British parliament. Our friends on the other side of the water, more particularly the International Arbitration and Peace Association, have already strongly urged the British Government to follow the suggestion of President Cleveland, and it is permitted to hope that the Venezuela trouble, which has now reached its culmination, may soon find a satisfactory adjustment. This being out of the way, there is scarcely a doubt that Washington will respond quickly and heartily to the memorial from London.

SCHOOLS OF WAR.

The days of American militarism are hastening along. While the people sleep, the tares are being rapidly sown. Under the pretense of a revival of patriotism, the school boys of the country, if these would-be military patriots are to have their way, are all to be trained in the arts of war and turned into "The American Guard." This is a high-sounding name, and many will be blinded by it to the dangers to our civil and religious liberties lurking behind the military organization which it is proposed to fasten upon the schools. The militia of the country has already become "The National Guard." Those American citizens who want to follow the war methods and the high-sounding titles of the old world would do well to give a little honest thought to the prostrate and helpless condition into which a universal militarism, with its Imperial Guards and whatnot, has brought the peoples of Europe, before they advance any further along the perilous road on which they have started and into which they purpose to allure the country by capturing the bright young school boys. We do not doubt that they mean well, just as the man did who put the chilled serpent into his bosom to warm it. But right intentions need to be directed by right wisdom, as we shall find to our sorrow a generation hence, if we suffer the spirit of the old world to dictate our policy along this line, as we seem now disposed to do.

Many will say, with raised shoulders, that we are alarmists, that there is no danger, that we shall stop at just the right point. A military company is organized in a school or a boys' brigade in a church, and the evil

results prophesied do not appear in a few months or a few years even, and forthwith these wise patriots and advanced Christians are greatly pleased with the success and the seeming innocence of their scheme and brand as foolish and unpatriotic all who, looking to the harvest of the future, venture a word of protest. It was apparently a very simple and undangerous thing, unworthy of any serious attention, that a long while ago a Dutch vessel came to our shores and unloaded a few slaves. But the rebellion and the civil war with all its horrors lay in the unloading of those first negro captives. It is the first Canada thistle which crosses the line that does the mischief. We make pitch our plaything and never suspect what blockheads we are making ourselves, until we try to wash out its deep-set stains. We live as if there were no future, as if the world ended with the going down of the sun, and thus we play the fool on a stupendous scale.

Col. H. P. Butler has drafted a bill, probably already introduced into the legislature for the military organization of the public schools of the State of New York. The organization is to be known as "The American Guard." The unit of the organization is to be a squad of eight boys. Six squads are to make a company, four companies a battalion, three battalions a regiment. The new United States army drill regulations are to be followed. Col. Butler's bill provides for the expenditure of \$100,000 in order to fully equip every organization of "The American Guard" in New York State. The outfit is to remain the property of the State, and the principals of the schools are to be held responsible for it. In order to bring the influence of Mars as near to the cradle as possible, the boys are to be admitted into the squads at the age of eleven. The school principals are to be "commandants," in order to entice them to favor the scheme. The State inspector-general is to examine the organization once a year.

We shall await with interest and anxiety the action of the legislature of the great Empire State on the subject. If the project fails to become a law, it will probably be from indifference rather than from intelligent opposition to it. Let all those in the State who wish to see our civil and religious liberties preserved from all sorts of tyranny do what they can immediately to create a strong public sentiment against Col. Butler's bill and all other bills of like kind. The friends of the measure are active and untiring and will not rest satisfied until every city school in New York State is bristling with bayonets, if it is in their power to bring this about. The great State whose seaport opens out to all the world ought to set the example of a different sort of patriotism from that which frowns with cannon and gleams with deadly steel.

Mr. Ephraim Appleton Lawrence who had been connected with the American Peace Society for more than fifty years died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. R. D. Lockwood, in Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 20th of December.